

Spent 7 years in prison

Stockdale president of War College

By T. CURTIS FORBES

Vice Adm. James B. Stockdale yesterday relieved Rear Adm. Huntington Hardisty as president of the Naval War College and candidly expressed his views on the school's faculty, curriculum and direction.

He praised the faculty "second to none" and said the disciplines taught at the college are the right ones, but "each in my view has blind spots in critical areas," namely the nature of war itself.

"On the national scale, failure to account for this has cost us dearly in the past. If I can somehow firmly establish and illuminate the inevitable blindnesses of these particularized specialties or disciplines to the psychological, subjective as well as objective totality of the human experience we call war, I think I will have done something for my country."

A prisoner of war for more than seven years in Vietnam, Stockdale said "war is serious business" during which "people get mad" and the laws of logic are valueless.

"They, everybody throw proferred opinion in the face of the enemy, because our honor is at stake. You can't feint, and engage and disengage like an adagio dancer, and it is well to realize this before combat."

His remarks were preceded by a speech by Adm. James L. Holloway III, chief of naval operations. Holloway noted that the

change of command was taking place on the Navy's 202nd birthday.

"The history of the Navy is entwined with that of Newport and Rhode Island. Newport is a city of the sea whose people understand and appreciate the importance of the sea to this country."

He said today's complex navy bears little resemblance to the modest force commanded by Rhode Islander Esek Hopkins and that the college, the first of its kind in the world, has fulfilled its mission of preparing mid-career officers for senior service in support of national defense.

"In my opinion, the great strength of this institution is that it never stood still; it has

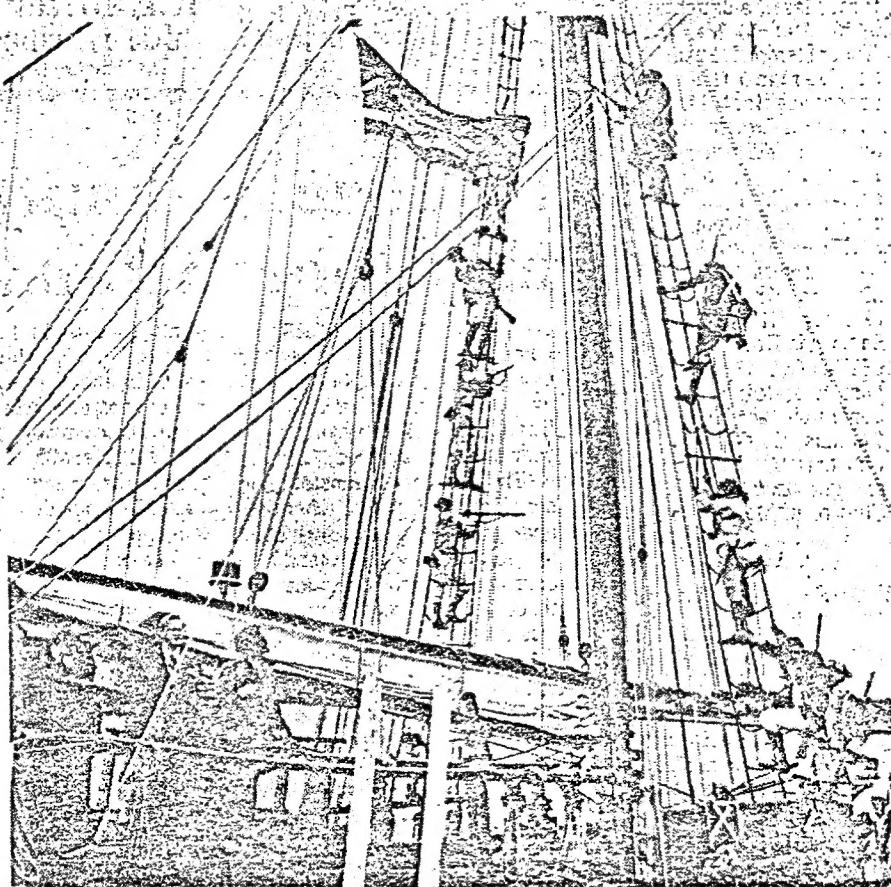
never been allowed to stagnate."

Following the ceremony on Colbert Plaza, officials and guests attended Navy Day observances on the sloop Providence, replica of the first ship of the American Navy.

Governor Garrahy read the state's proclamation of Navy Day and thanked John Nicholas Brown, who was in the audience, for his family's sale of the Katy, later named the Providence, to the colony.

"I think the state got the better part of that deal," Garrahy said.

A 19-gun salute was fired for the Navy. The ceremonies were concluded with a rifle salute by the Continental Marines.



NAVY DAY observances yesterday on sloop Providence included speech by Gov. Garrahy. Continental Marines are shown in rigging as they prepare for rifle salute. (Daily News)

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